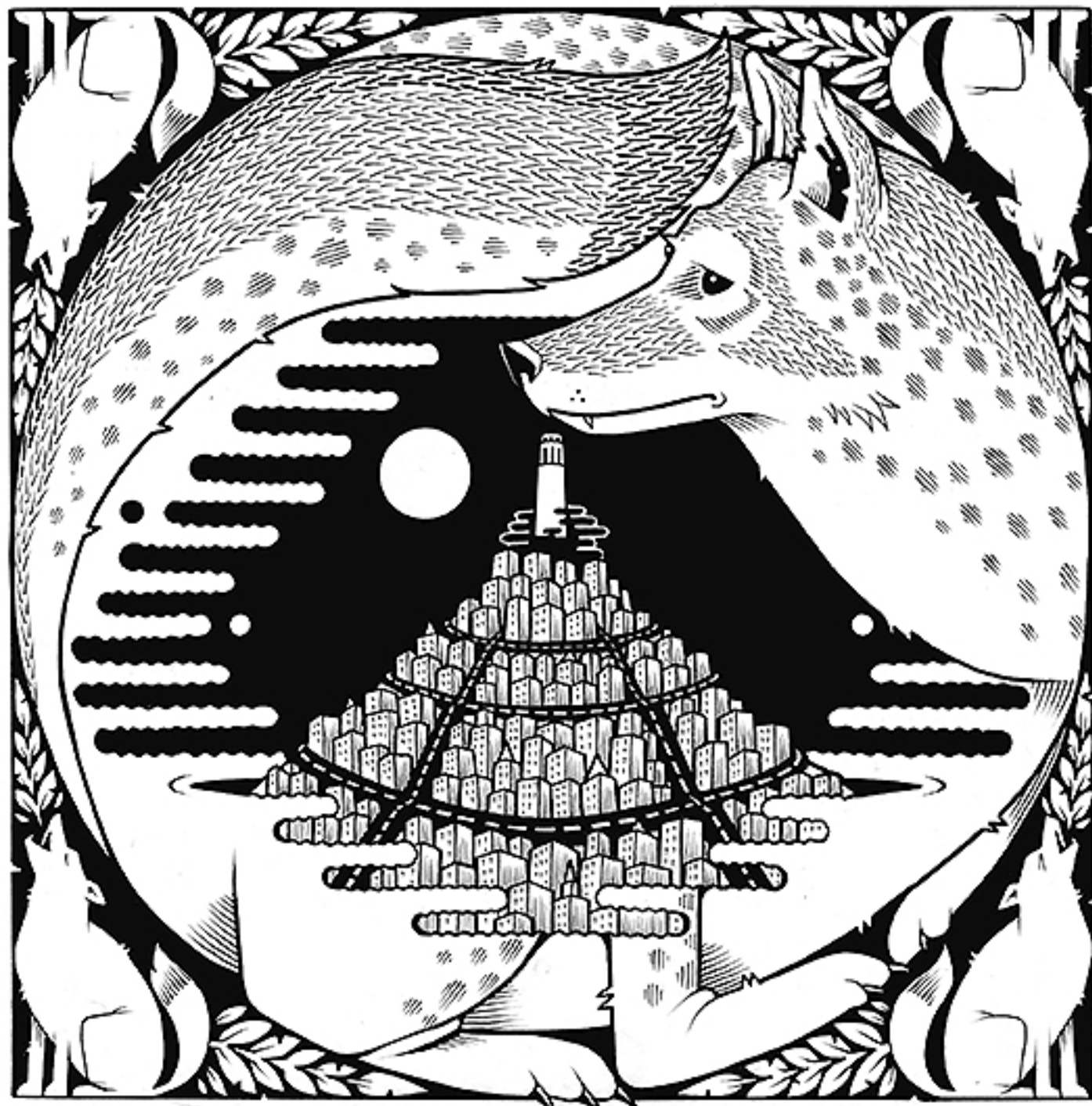


# The Semaphore

A Publication of the TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS

Issue 220

Winter 2018

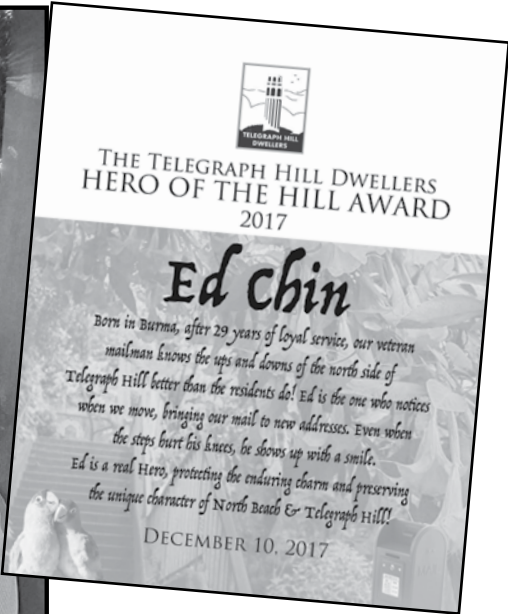
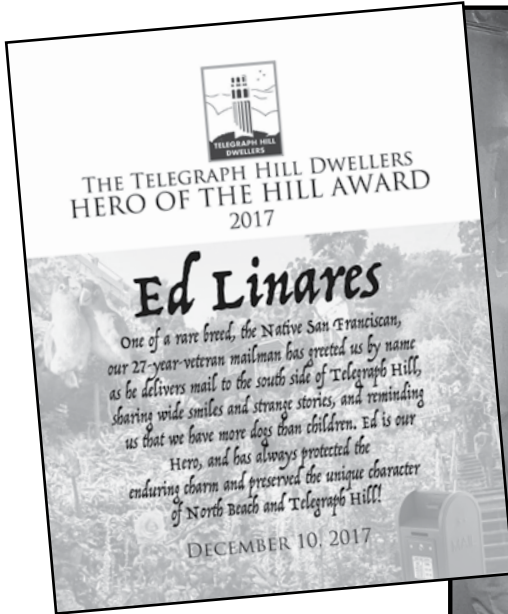


OUR VALENTINE TO THE HILL and  
HAPPY YEAR OF THE DOG



# HEROES OF THE HILL

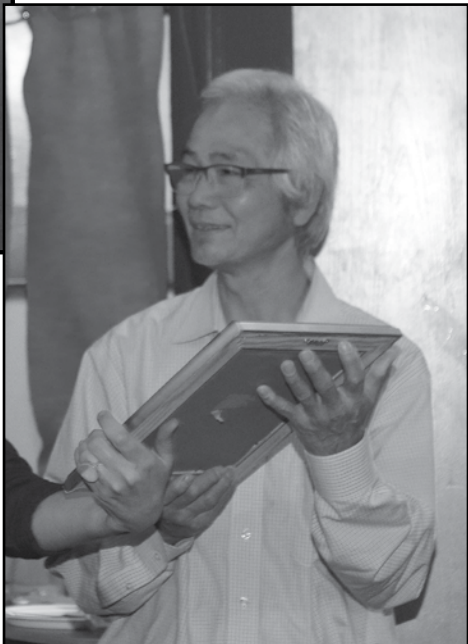
Telegraph Hill Dwellers celebrate a year of accomplishments, challenges, and camaraderie at our Holiday Party in December (see p. 14). Congratulations to Edward Chin and Edwin Linares, the recipients of our annual Hero of the Hill Awards — and warm thanks to the THD board members and other volunteers whose hard work makes it all happen.



Edwin Linares. PHOTO © MARY ANN SCANLAN

Hero of the Hill honorees Ed Linares (left) & Ed Chin (right), with THD VP Romalyn Schmalz, D3 Supervisor Aaron Peskin, THD President Judy Irving, & presenter Katherine Petrin.

PHOTO © MERLE GOLDSTONE



Edward Chin. PHOTO © MARY ANN SCANLAN



Chef Adam Soldan. PHOTO © MARY ANN SCANLAN



Photographer Mary Ann Scanlan takes a break with Kevin Houff & David Kennedy.

PHOTO © MERLE GOLDSTONE



Nick Floulis of Lillie Coit's & THD Planning & Zoning Co-Chair Stan Hayes.

PHOTO © MARY ANN SCANLAN



Communications Co-Chair Al Fontes, Historian Nancy Shanahan, Recording Secretary Mary Lipian, and Parks & Trees Chair Don Raichle.

PHOTO © MARY ANN SCANLAN



Marilee Gaffney & Patrick Rylee — the engine of the party!

PHOTO © MARY ANN SCANLAN



Photographer Merle Goldstone capturing a shot between Gerry Crowley & Arthur Chang.

PHOTO © MARY ANN SCANLAN





## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Judy Irving  
president@thd.org

A lot happens “behind the scenes” on Telegraph Hill. In Stan Hayes’ Planning & Zoning report you’ll read about some of the battles we’ve been waging to keep the Hill livable, including arcane but crucial rewrites of new residential and commercial design guidelines that will direct future development. In our Social & Program report you’ll see photos of the holiday party at the “Washbag” (the new Lillie Coit’s), an event that required much behind-the-scenes planning to make it such a success. But outside our homes, restaurants, and politics, there’s a whole world of natural phenomena operating under the radar, too, in the habitat that we and many other species call home.

A few months ago Mark Bittner, my husband, and I heard a mysterious howling after the Tuesday noon siren. This went on for three weeks in a row. The siren would go off, followed by a booming male voice assuring us this was “only a test” of the emergency broadcast system, and then, after a pause, a pack of coyotes started howling and yipping! At least it *sounded* like a pack; later I read that two coyotes can easily sound like seven or eight, by manipulating their vocal overtones like Tuvan throat singers.

I decided to try to film these elusive “coyotes at noon,” so I pointed my camera at a different patch of Telegraph Hill habitat for the next six weeks, timed to the Tuesday siren. People who were familiar with the coyotes let me film from their patios, decks, and roofs, so I had views from the top and bottom of the Hill at Greenwich, Lombard, and Chestnut. I didn’t really expect to see them, but I was hoping to hear them again.

Coyotes are known in Indian tales as Tricksters, and sure enough, they remained silent for five of my attempts. Only once did a coyote howl, six mournful times. What I had was an Andy Warhol film: empty patches of habitat with a siren wailing and a voice saying “this is a test.” So I changed my tactics.

The following week, before dawn, with a male friend as a guide, I set up my camera on the paved path wrapping around Pioneer Park. There was a dark shape moving on the slope above us, and as the sky lightened I finally did make out a coyote hunkered down in the grass, with ears twitching and nose sometimes pointed to the sky. As the sun rose the coyote stood up and I could see her thick, healthy coat of many colors—rust, tan, gray, and golden. She looked lean and fit. I caught a quick shot of her walking away, disappearing into the bushes. I realized, trying to film her, that this would be a very tough shoot: Coyotes disappear. That’s what they do. They vanish. It doesn’t mean they aren’t there. “They see us before we see them,” my guide said.

Early morning joggers, dog walkers, and exercisers know this coyote and others too. One woman showed me a video she’d shot last spring of an adult coyote below her deck, romping on the steep hillside with seven pups! Some people have names for them. It is generally known that two people still feed them, although this is a very bad idea. Even though urban coyotes are habitu-



Coyote locks eyes with Terri McCracken as she snaps this photo from her balcony above the brushy cliff, facing the Bay.

PHOTO © TERRI MCCrackEN

## BEHIND THE SCENES



Coyote crosses safely at Telegraph Hill Blvd and Greenwich.

PHOTO © JOHN LEE

ated to people, they remain wary; they won’t approach us unless taught to do so by feeding.

This past week, they all disappeared. By the time you read this they might be back. They’re nothing if not elusive. Where did they go? How do they interact with the raccoons waddling around the Hill? Who wins if there’s a fight? I read in the paper that a Stern Grove coyote recently fought off a pit bull that had been chasing it off-leash. At the end of the encounter the pit bull was whimpering and the coyote had vanished. But someone else said the paper got it wrong—it was a raccoon!

How did they get here? There’s a video online entitled “Coyotes Crossing Golden Gate Bridge,” but they’re not on the bridge; they’re trotting down a Hawk Hill road that leads to a parking lot! The DNA of San Francisco coyotes matches the DNA of those in Mendocino County, not the coyotes south of the city. So, did they swim? No. Too far. I heard that a trapper who was mad about the ban on leg-hold traps put some coyotes in the back of his truck and *drove* them across the Golden Gate Bridge, releasing them in the Presidio to teach us SF bleeding hearts a lesson. Now the city has about 100. Many other urban areas have their own coyote stories.

Some people call this era “the Return of the Carnivores.” People with cats are learning to keep them indoors, and people with dogs, especially small ones, are learning to keep them on leashes. Official San Francisco policy is “live and let live.” It is illegal to trap, harass, or relocate them. As a bird lover, I have to wonder whether the presence of coyotes on Telegraph Hill will ironically benefit the bird life here, as fewer cats choose to roam in the same area.

My Valentine to the Hill is addressed to all the animals who share it with us—the coyotes, raccoons,

skunks, birds, and other creatures who live here or are simply passing through, living their own particular lives “behind the scenes.” Add to that the occasional whales, seals, and dolphins in the Bay that surrounds us. In 2018 I want to spend less time looking at a computer and more time getting to know my habitat. Have you ever lived in such a wild place? I haven’t!

I invite you to send me your Hill wildlife stories for our spring issue: president@thd.org



PHOTO © JANET KESSLER



Coyotes are habituated to humans in the city, but wary all the same.

PHOTO © JANET KESSLER



Coyotes like to vanish.

PHOTO © TERRI MCCrackEN



Coyote surveys her Hill habitat.

PHOTO © JANET KESSLER





# PARKS & TREES REPORT

by Don Raichle, Committee Chair  
don.raichle@thd.org

During 2017, potential changes to Telegraph Hill's parks and open space were at the center of countless meetings and, in some cases, heated debate. By the end of the year the outreach and design process for several improvements to Washington Square had been substantially completed and the contentious future of Vallejo Street put on hold—for now. Looking forward, 2018 appears to be focused more on implementation of projects where a consensus has been created and the plans approved.

## Washington Square Playground

After extensive public workshops and reviews, a final design for the Washington Square Playground replacement has been developed, with construction slated to begin in April 2018 and finish in October. Impetus for the replacement came as funds became available targeting improvements to playgrounds throughout the city. The condition of the existing play equipment and playground as a whole put Washington Square near the top of the list to take advantage of this funding. After significant debate and neighborhood input it was determined that the playground should target toddlers as a complement to the older children accommodated by the improvements to Joe DiMaggio Playground. The initial designs proposed were very contemporary and many residents felt the bright colors and overall composition was in conflict with the historical character of the park. As a result of multiple workshops led by the Friends of Washington Square, a final design was developed that featured more muted stainless steel play features and a green undulating surface that was more in keeping with the park's existing context. The park will feature toddler-scaled swings, climbing structures, and slides. Perched atop the swing



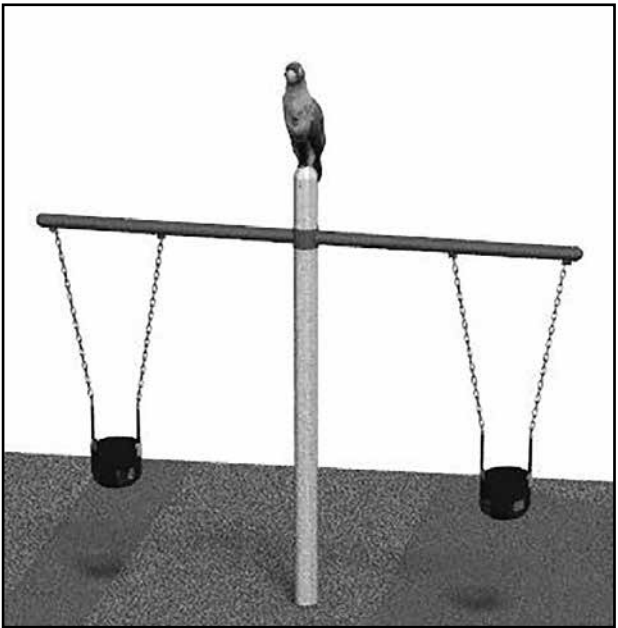
Design for the new Washington Square playground.

set will be a parrot referencing our famous local flock.

## Washington Square Irrigation and Drainage Improvements

After years of neglect and patchwork repairs, the Square will undergo a replacement and upgrade of its irrigation and drainage systems. While not always apparent, broken irrigation lines, mismatched components, and differential settling of the turf areas will finally be addressed. The result should be a substantial improvement to the health of the turf and plant material. The downside of this effort will be that the park, with the exception of the newly completed playground, will be closed during construction which is slated for late 2018/early 2019 with completion in the summer of 2019. During construction there will also be removal and replacement of a number of trees. A recent Arborist's Report identified and reviewed all the trees in the park and noted those which are beyond their healthy life cycle, and in some cases, pose a significant safety hazard. Both the Telegraph Hill Dwellers and Friends of Washington Square will be involved in

working with Recreation and Parks to identify appropriate replacements where tree removal is absolutely necessary.



Proposed swing set, topped by a parrot sculpture.

MOVE WITH EASE

1441 Grant Ave  
415.398.4425  
www.bluesparrowpilates.com

BLUE SPARROW PILATES

CELEBRATING 5 YEARS IN NORTH BEACH!

Little Vine  
CHEESE, WINE & PROVISIONS

1541 GRANT AVE BETWEEN UNION & FILBERT

CITY LIGHTS BOOKSELLERS & PUBLISHERS

A LITERARY MEETING PLACE SINCE 1953  
OPEN DAILY  
10am-midnight  
261 COLUMBUS AVE SAN FRANCISCO CA 94133 | 415 362 8193  
www.citylights.com

NORTH BEACH

1042 Kearny Street  
San Francisco, CA 94133  
Phone: (415) 398-9696  
www.tommasos.com

Home of the first wood-fired pizza oven on the West Coast.  
Since 1935.





## DISTRICT 3 SUPERVISOR REPORT

by Aaron Peskin

No year is without challenges, but 2017 was certainly one for the books. We have watched a vengeful and volatile billionaire, backed by a Republican-controlled Congress, strip away protections for the vast majority of Americans and pervert the fundamental foundations of our democracy. The Far Right's \$1.5 trillion tax cut bill capped off an otherwise miserable national political year with a massive giveaway to the mega-rich, deepening our country's extreme income inequality. This divide was on display for the world recently when the United Nations released a scathing report detailing Americans' real struggles to access everything from clean water to basic education, with 12.7% of the U.S. population (some 40 million people, majority women and children) living in abject poverty.

As Climate Change deniers have become hegemonic in the Federal Government, we saw the most expensive hurricane season in U.S. history, with Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria wreaking havoc on the U.S. mainland and Puerto Rico. Scientists have linked the catastrophic hurricane seasons to the above-average Atlantic temperatures—and the very real consequences of unchecked climate change. While the National Rifle Association has the Congress in its pocket, the nation mourned the victims of the deadliest mass shooting in



Kevin Arnold (Elvis Christ) at the corner of Columbus & Vallejo. PHOTO © DENNIS HEARNE



Huck (Lawrence Herbert Pease Jr.) at the Saloon. PHOTO © DENNIS HEARNE

## FROM THE HILL TO THE DOME:



Millie Gardiner holding an old photo of herself by George Auxier at Enrico's. PHOTO © DENNIS HEARNE

U.S. history, and 2017 saw almost as many mass shootings as days in the calendar year. It's really hard to process all of this and not be depressed. But we will continue to march, organize, and fight. We have no choice.

I feel lucky to live in the bubble that is California, the Bay Area, and San Francisco. But, locally San Francisco continues to struggle with managing its booming growth responsibly and equitably, including addressing growth by-products like traffic congestion and dirty streets. Housing instability and homelessness continue to be at out-of-control levels, disproportionately impacting our most vulnerable communities—with NO help from the Federal Government. We lost our Mayor on the eve of the last Board meeting of the year, and the critical work left to be done weighs heavy on me, my colleagues, and the City.

### Relentless, Irresistible Hope Rooted in Community

The year's roll call reads like the End of Days, and a cursory review makes it easy to fall prey to hopelessness and despair. As my awesome drag queen friend Juanita MORE! recently wrote, though, sometimes "looking for the silver lining takes a lot of extra squinting." As I reflect on this past year, I have been doing a lot of squinting. And here are some shards of silver that I can make out:

- Creative resistance has built momentum and unlikely alliances nationwide, with boundary-breaking



Nate and Nan Roth at one of their favorite North Beach haunts, Mario's Bohemian Cigar Store. PHOTO © NAN ROTH



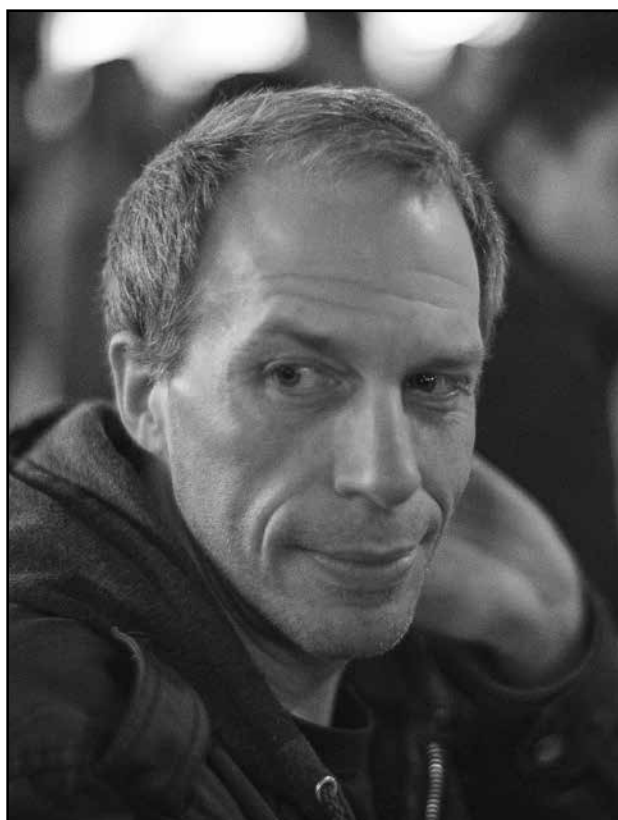
Captain Cool (Patrick LeBold) at his regular spot at Vesuvio's. PHOTO © DENNIS HEARNE

candidates winning in droves on Election Day, including many "firsts" for women, people of color, and LGBTQ candidates.

- If we weren't organizing each other, we were invoking the rule of law to defend our democratic values and rights. In his first three months in office, Trump was sued in federal court 134 times—nearly three times more than his last three predecessors (Democratic and Republican) combined. San Francisco and California have joined in multiple lawsuits against the federal administration, with San Francisco most recently joining Philadelphia and New York City in filing suit against the Pentagon for repeatedly failing to report military convictions to a federal database designed to keep firearms out of the hands of criminals.

- The California Coastal Commission, which I have the honor of serving on, has charted a new course in defense of the environment, working together to increase public access to our 1.5 million acres of coastline while holding developers and the federal administration to account for abuses. We also initiated a lawsuit against the Trump Administration for attempting to build the Border Wall in the Coastal Zone without proper authorization.

- Locally, we passed groundbreaking legislation to create the highest inclusionary affordable housing requirements in the entire country (25% rental/27%



Paul "Pauly" Grady at Specs. PHOTO © DENNIS HEARNE

END OF THE YEAR

ownership). Teamwork prevailed over politics, and Supervisors Kim, Breed, Safai and I were able to extract the maximum feasible amount of below-market-rate housing in new residential construction, expand eligibility to a new tier of middle-class renters and homeowners, and ensure deeper levels of affordability for our lowest income earners.

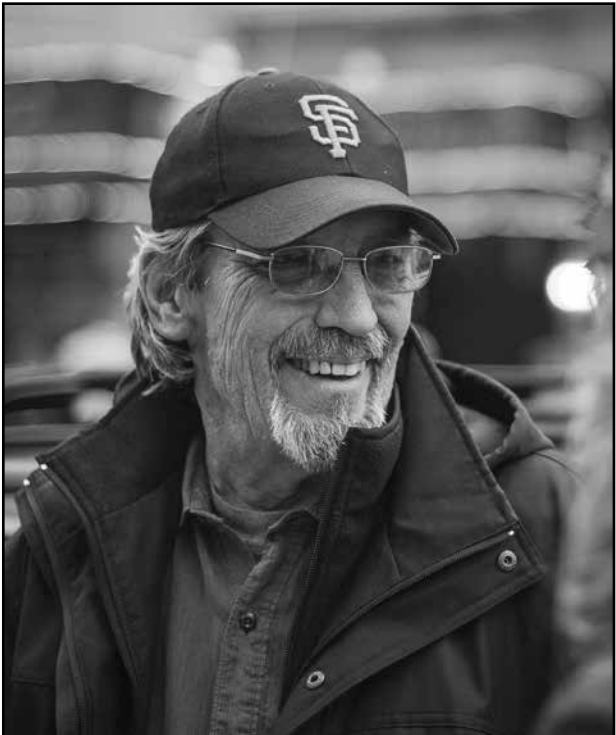
• My SRO Hotel Conversion Ordinance Reforms passed unanimously at the Board of Supervisors in February, protecting over 19,000 units of permanently affordable Single Resident Occupancy (SRO) housing from being cannibalized by illegal conversions and short-term rentals. These precious units have historically been the last refuge for our immigrant families, seniors, low-wage workers, neighborhood artists and eccentrics. Later in the fall of 2017, my “Safe and Sustainable SRO Act” also passed unanimously, closing a dangerous loophole in our local law that was highlighted after multiple SRO fires in Chinatown and the Mission District.

• Here in the neighborhood, the Telegraph Hill Dwellers have provided vital input on numerous planning and neighborhood land use issues, including helping to shape a package of Neighborhood Commercial District (NCD) reforms to preserve a diversity of small neighborhood-serving businesses. My office has also nominated and won approval for more legacy businesses than any other district citywide.

• In our attempts to mitigate out-of-control traffic congestion and incentivize a Transit First City, my office co-chaired a robust public process to identify a 2018 progressive revenue measure to fund critical transportation infrastructure and operations over the next 27 years. I’ve also taken up the issue of SFMTA regulatory authority and accountability as the co-sponsor of a proposed Charter Amendment to give the Board of Supervisors more control over critical street use issues —such as private ride-hail services. To curb our carbon emissions, I’m pushing fossil fuel divestment—one of the last issues that Mayor Ed Lee and I agreed to work on together before his passing.

• In the wake of the GOP tax cuts, we are working again with Assemblyman Phil Ting to recoup vital revenue by levying a local “millionaire’s tax”—a slight increase to the income tax San Francisco millionaires already pay—which would go to funding housing and homeless services, street cleaning, and other public services.

As always, the most hopeful silver lining is our community. Politicians come and we go, but community members are the constants that keep neighborhoods alive and vibrant. We lost some remarkable community members in 2017, including Vesuvio’s doorman Paul “Pauly” Grady, Leo Riegler of The Coffee Gallery and Vesuvio,



Lynn Alcorn. PHOTO © DENNIS HEARNE



Jeffery Chinn. PHOTO © MARY NELSON

longtime THD member Nate Roth, photographer and Caffè Trieste regular Lynn Alcorn, Saloon bartender and artist Lawrence “Huck” Pease, North Beach street artist Kevin Arnold (AKA Elvis Christ), classical guitarist and lutenist Jeffery Chinn, internationally renowned photographer Jimo Perini, and North Beach icon Patrick LeBold (AKA Captain Cool). Each lost person leaves behind relationships, stories and countless contributions that make North Beach and Telegraph Hill eternally special. No one better encapsulates that spirit than Millie Fishman Gardiner.

North Beach Community Love: Millie

We lost our beloved Millie before the close of 2017. Her toothless smile, sweet disposition, and ever-ready Polaroid camera were mainstays of North Beach life. When she took the wrong bus in 2009 to a Reno synagogue and became lost, neighborhood friends rallied to bring her home. Such a welcome home party you’ve never seen! Enrico’s was packed with well-wishers, happy to have our bohemian sweetheart back home. Reminiscing recently with Flora Gaspar about our efforts to get her into Laguna Honda Hospital after she became unable to care for herself brought back waves of memories and treasured stories. “Are you behavin’?” she always said when I’d bump into her. Toddling from café to restaurant to café, Millie took photos and had photos taken, enjoyed a free cup of coffee or bowl of hot soup, and inquired after your spouse or child or parents. She had a genuine love for my parents, and would send them a Hanukah card every year without fail, decorated with all these odd little stamps. I have no idea where she got those stamps or my parents’ address, but it quite touched me.

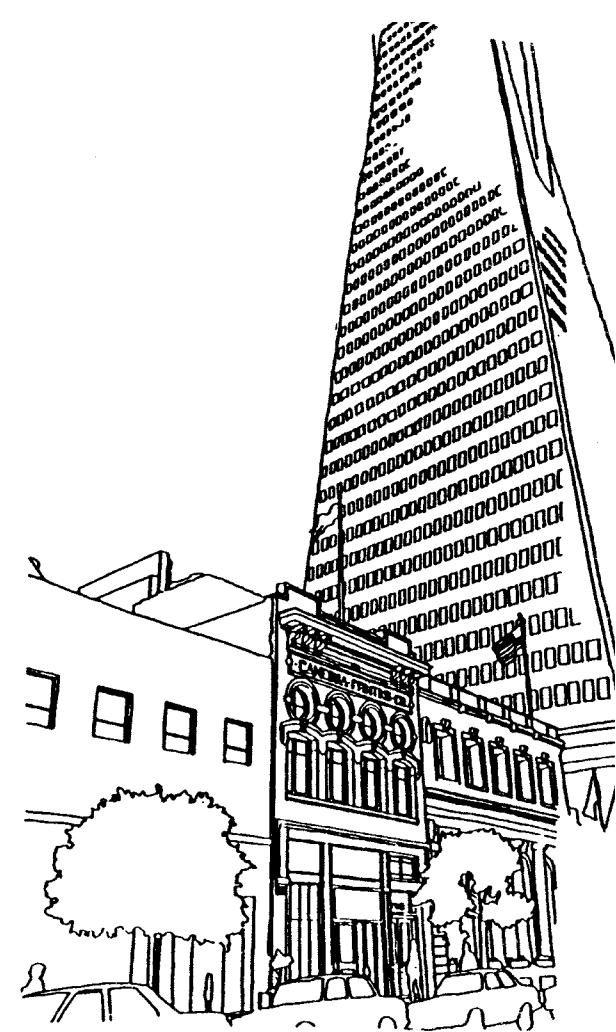
The last time I saw Millie was when my wife and I went to the 150th anniversary of Laguna Honda Hospital. I asked staff if I could visit her, and when I finally tracked her down on the 8th floor, she took one look at me and burst into tears sobbing, “I want to go home to North Beach!” I know that the Laguna Honda staff took wonderful care of Millie, and overall she was quite happy there—but the glow of North Beach community was always calling her from afar. For so many people, North Beach is much more than a neighborhood. It’s a community of connected souls that take care of and look out for each other. I’m proud to be a part of it and proud to represent you. Millie: I’m trying my best to behave!



Helene & Jimo Perini at Caffè Trieste. PHOTO © DENNIS HEARNE

And with that, in honor of all those who have opened up their hearts and homes to a neighborhood character or shared some camaraderie, conversation, and coffee with a stranger, here is a recipe my mother makes that I would like to share with all of you. It’s one of my favorites, and is best served with company. Here’s to building more community in 2018! Let’s continue to stand up, organize, and fight for a better, more just San Francisco and beyond.

See you around the neighborhood in 2018. ✦



ADVERTISEMENT

Tsipa’s “You Catch More Flies With Honey” Coffee Cake	
3 c. flour	1 c. strong coffee
1 ½ tsp baking powder	1 c. honey
1 tsp baking soda	1 c. shortening
1 tsp cinnamon	4 eggs, separated
½ tsp mixed spices	1 c. brown sugar
½ tsp ginger	½ lemon, juice and rind
¼ tsp salt	
Sift dry ingredients. Cream shortening and sugar. Add four egg yolks and honey and mix well. Then add flour and coffee alternately. Add juice of the lemon and a little rind and beat well. Beat egg whites until stiff and fold in.	
Put into 2 greased loaf pans which have been sprinkled with flour. Bake at 350 degrees for one hour. Share with loved ones—or those in need of a little love.	



# UMBRELLAS AND ART

by Romalyn Schmaltz

The three-year-old North Beach Bauhaus Gallery recently extended its life and expanded its repertoire by inviting a local business to “pop-up” there, not unlike a spring-loaded handle on . . . an umbrella. If you’ve stopped by 703 Columbus in the past year, you’ve noticed the diverse, prolific work of entrepreneur and now fine artist Marc Alan Brown. Recently I sat down with him to ask the question “Why umbrellas?” (besides the fact that ’tis the season for them).

The San Francisco Umbrella Company was founded by Brown in April, 2012. “I chose to make umbrellas because I had wanted to be in the fashion industry and was looking for a product to make,” he explained. “Wandering the rainy streets of San Francisco, I realized that almost all of the umbrellas that people carried were cheap, ugly, and many were broken. Considering how well and expensively dressed most people were it seemed very strange. I found that most people had no idea where to buy an umbrella except when it was raining when they appeared like mushrooms on the streets and in the shops. Further, most people had never had a good quality umbrella and had no idea where to obtain one. In addition, the umbrella canopy seemed like a perfect canvas for artwork.”

What kind of artwork? Brown knew how strongly people identify with their pets, so “Raining cats and dogs” was an obvious starting point (see photo). From there, he added more animal themes, as well as “Butterfly Wing Designs”—an original black paint watercolor printed on four different colors of canopy—plus Fleur de Lys, Unicorn, and San Francisco prints. In 2014, he started working with Sunbrella™, the most effective sun protection fabric in the world—used for patio umbrellas and nautical furniture among other items—to make The Blue Jean Umbrella.

Brown estimates his company sells about 40,000 umbrellas per year. The Blue Jean sun-protection umbrellas retail for about \$60. The rain umbrellas go for \$29.95 online, but only \$25 at the North Beach Bauhaus.

When I asked Brown what made his product uniquely San Francisco, he replied, “I think that creativity and risk taking is in the air and in the water here. Almost no one I told about our idea for umbrellas thought that it was a good one. But we knew that there was an opportunity for something beautiful and functional. San Francisco is a beautiful city and so the umbrellas of the San Francisco Umbrella Company must all be beautiful.” ✕



Ronald Sauer, Marc Alan Brown, & Romalyn Schmaltz at the North Beach Bauhaus.

PHOTO © REBECCA PETERS

## Old World Italian Retail Shop



- FRESH PASTA
- PANZEROTTI, PIADINA & PIZZELLES
- ARTISAN FOCACCIA
- FINE SALUMI & CHEESES
- IMPORTED ITALIAN LINENS
- PIZZA TOOLS & BAKEWARE
- KITCHEN AID APPLIANCES
- COOKBOOKS
- IMPORTED GOURMET FOOD ITEMS



OPEN SUNDAY-THURSDAY, 12PM-7PM • CLOSED MONDAY  
629 UNION ST, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94133 • 415-576-8806

[www.GiovanniSpecialties.com](http://www.GiovanniSpecialties.com)

**BRING IN THIS AD AND RECEIVE 10% OFF ANY ITEM** EXPIRES 6/1/2018

# THE JOB FORUM:

## A HELPING HAND IN THE 21ST-CENTURY JOB MARKET

by C.J. Verburg

**D**o you (or does someone you know) want a new job? Maybe not. This is North Beach, after all—legendary home of poets and painters, trust-funders and tech moguls. Finding the right 9-to-5 position is less urgent for more people than in most places. But: killer rents! Whopping property taxes! High cost of living! Fall between the cracks and how do you climb back into the black?

Luckily for the less-than-happily employed, help is just a few blocks away.

Every Wednesday evening at 6:20, job-seekers from around the Bay Area open the Russ Building's brass door at 235 Montgomery Street and walk into The Job Forum. They may be looking for a position that's more fulfilling, or better paying, or any job related to their career at all. They're diverse in age, gender, ethnicity, and experience. Some are frustrated, some are just curious. Whatever they need, a team of San Francisco Bay Area volunteer experts is ready to help.

"So much has changed in the process of applying for jobs and getting hired," says Janet Beach, the dynamo marketing consultant who (as a volunteer) runs The Job Forum. "A job hunter can waste lots of time and get discouraged, and for good reasons—most of us don't know how job search really works today!" It's not just organizations' structures that have changed, she adds, but their technical tools. However fluent a job applicant may be in English, he or she had better be multilingual in software.

The Job Forum only exists in San Francisco. It's been here for 65 years, sponsored by the SF Chamber of Commerce. And it's free.

Climb the stairs to the conference room. Sit down at the table. Hand in your résumé and information form. No reservation needed. Some weeks a handful of people show up, some weeks a crowd. On this particular late-fall night, there are fourteen. Where do they come from? IT companies. A foreign consulate.



"This Job Forum has been really helpful, the advice/answers are easy to understand and straight to the point, plus there is no judgment, only help and good ideas!" – Digital Marketing Manager

A home-based consulting firm. Yelp. Citrix. LinkedIn. China. Australia. Ukraine.

One by one, each job-seeker tells her or his story. They want to work in tech or biomedical or finance. Janet Beach will loop back often to "your story." That's the personal narrative that ties together the credentials on your résumé, and bridges your suspicious gap between jobs, and turns your impulsive change of course into a smart career pivot. What gets your foot in the HR door is more likely to be your key strengths and your story than how well you fill out the online

application. Your other best asset is an ally inside your target company who can refer you. Once you land an interview, your story needs to present you as a confident contributor, not a needy supplicant.

Who are the volunteer career coaches? I met two from a pool of 50. About half of them are managers and half are HR experts, Beach says. "They work at companies like Levi Strauss, Facebook, Indeed, Salesforce, Visa, Google, and some you may not have heard of yet: Smart Recruiters, HyperVision, Nektar Therapeutics, Entelo, Fran Net." They listen carefully to each speaker's individual desires and concerns before they respond. Their approach is positive: In your ideal vision of your life, what do you picture yourself doing? Their focus is on practical job-hunting goals and tactics: What companies can you identify whose culture matches your goals? How can you show that your skills match up with a relevant job description's keywords?

When there's time, a special discussion may supplement the individualized coaching that is delivered to the group. One week attendees learned how to use the advanced features of LinkedIn to conduct a job search. The week before that, they got a look inside the typical HR department, to understand the implications of the latest software dashboards and platforms which influence who gets considered for each job, or chosen for an interview. The Job Forum also organizes programs with groups such as local colleges who want to utilize this resource for an alumni association event or as a companion service to their career center services.

A number of the volunteers first came here to restart their own stalled careers, and have returned to share their success by paying it forward. Why is The Job Forum so popular? "Nowadays, we're online much of the time," Janet Beach answers. "So it's great to join an in-person meeting in downtown San Francisco, where professional people are helping job seekers one-on-one to use modern methods in their search. People here advise each other as to the nuances for what really works in a modern job search!"



"I like the open forum design of the meeting and opportunity to hear other people's job challenges and strategies because you can apply this to your own situation. You may not have known to ask the question, but you sure can use the advice."

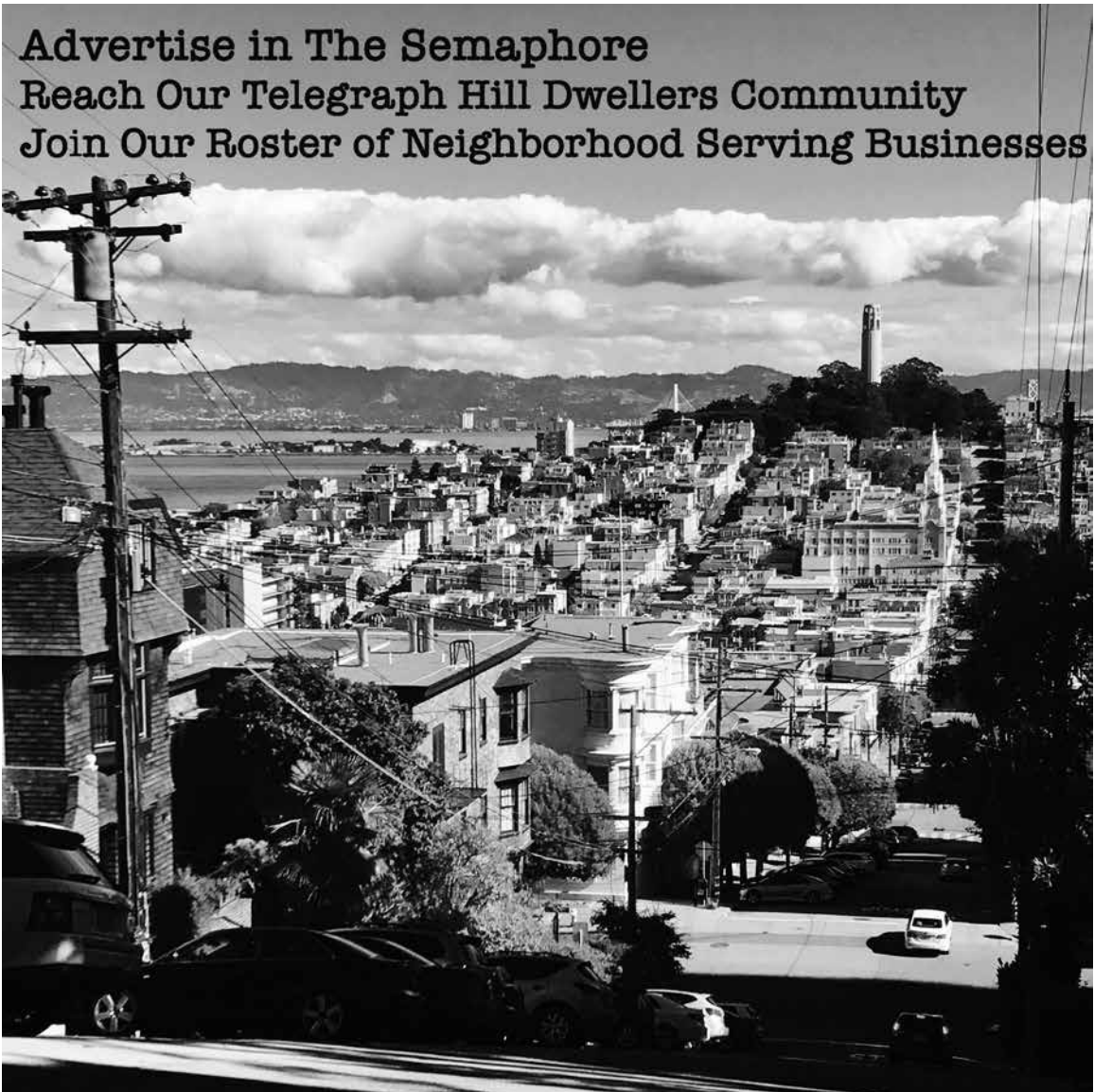
– Marketing and Sales Manager



"I give it 10 out of 10! The Job Forum panel personalized the advice and experience for each job applicant. Gave the facts and walked step-by-step through the process. Developed a one-by-one focus for participants. What an impressive service!"

– Finance Manager

**Advertise in The Semaphore**  
**Reach Our Telegraph Hill Dwellers Community**  
**Join Our Roster of Neighborhood Serving Businesses**



**For Ad Sizes and Rates Contact:**  
**Andy Katz at [andy.katz@thd.org](mailto:andy.katz@thd.org)**  
**Telegraph Hill Dwellers Semaphore Ad Sales**



# MADAME HO AT CAMERON HOUSE

by C J Verburg

At the end of 2017, four North Beach writers—Tania Amochaev, Jon Golinger, Richard Slota, and I—went to see San Francisco playwright Eugenie Chan’s new play *Madame Ho* in a special Chinatown performance at Cameron House.

Chan’s inspiration for *Madame Ho* was her great-grandmother, who was legendary in the family for running a brothel. I knew of Eugenie Chan because we’re both past winners of Centenary Stage Company’s Women Playwrights Award. I was curious about this particular script because it parallels my play *Belle of the West*, which centers on another 19th-century madam: Belle Cora, whose 1850s “parlour house” was across Pike Street (now Waverly Place) from the Chinese-American madam Ah Toy’s.

Our Hill Dwellers group were each intrigued by a different aspect of the production. So we agreed we’d each contribute something different for The Semaphore.

Eugenie Chan’s script hopscotches in time, from the end of Madame Ho’s life back to her journey from China to San Francisco, pausing at various points in between. All the characters, male and (mostly) female, are played by a cast of seven women. The actresses take turns as Ho’s exploitive husband (or owner) by putting on his hat. They’re accompanied by the one man onstage, an erhu musician.

The three free Cameron House performances were a gift to the Chinatown neighborhood from the Eugenie Chan Theater Project—a weekend detour from the play’s full production at the Exit Theater. Kudos to the cast and crew for their generosity and flexibility, and to the creators of the surrounding display at Cameron House on the history of Chinese involvement in our city. ❖



## THE CAMERON HOUSE MURAL

by Jon Golinger

Visitors to Cameron House are greeted just inside the front door by a bright, colorful mural that tells the rich story of the place and the many lives it has touched.

The Cameron House mural was painted by retired architect and ordained minister Ed Sue when he was a youth leader there. It arcs from left to right, with seven scenes that span the history of what was originally the Occidental Mission Home for Girls, later renamed for its long-time superintendent and champion Donaldina Cameron. The paintings tell the story of Cameron House’s creation as a sanctuary for Chinese girls who sought to escape abuse, to its reconstruction after being dynamited in the aftermath of the 1906 earthquake, to its emergence as a widely used service and spiritual community center that has improved the lives of countless domestic violence victims, youth, and seniors.

With his epic mural, Ed Sue memorialized the struggles and successes of Cameron House for all who enter the building to see, any time they wish. All they have to do is look up. ❖



## ABOUT MADAME HO

by Tania Amochaev and Eugenie Chan Theater Projects  
(<http://www.eugeniechantheater.org/>)

Inspired by the life of local playwright Eugenie Chan’s great-grandmother, Madame Ho tells the fascinating story of a formidable Barbary Coast, San Francisco brothel madam, single mother, Chinese immigrant . . . and ghost. It is a tale of survival and complicity, intended as the first installment of a performance trilogy capturing the epic sweep of Chinese participation in the American West. Chan mines her real family history to unearth how a single mother struggles to raise her daughter while running a Chinatown broth-

el in the segregated world of the late 1800s.

Chan explained, “For years as a kid, I would hear rumors of my father’s family’s tainted past. That my great-grandmother was a brothel madam. Aunts would shoo away a flamboyant uncle who dared tell such tales at the teen table. My mother who married into the family was straightforward: It was a way to survive. I wondered what it was like for this great-grandmother to raise a family while running this business. And to do so with the highest regard for her children’s future in the segregated world of the late 1800s. Thus, Madame Ho was born.”

The play was in English with Chinese subtitles, and the audience laughed loudly at Chinese sentences whose significance the four of us could only imagine. ❖





# CHINATOWN AND TELEGRAPH HILL

by Richard Slota

North Beach and Telegraph Hill have a long history of ambivalence toward neighboring Chinatown.

Howard Wong, a THD member, was born in Chinatown and, as a child, was part of the first Chinese family to move into North Beach in 1952. He says it was not uncommon to hear the word “Chink” hurled at him when, as a child, he walked around North Beach. Nationally, Chinese were the only foreign group banned from immigration to the United States, by the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. (It wasn’t rescinded until 1943 by President Roosevelt.)

Part of the Eugenie Chan Theater Projects’ presentation at the Cameron House performances of *Madame Ho* was a display on the history of the Chinese in San Francisco. It included the article reproduced here from the May 28, 1906 *Examiner*.

After the great earthquake and fire of April 18, 1906, which leveled Chinatown and much of the

city, the city government established a *Subcommittee on Relocating the Chinese*. A plan was floated to move all 14,000 Chinese residents from their coveted land near the Financial District, turn Chinatown over to developers, and resettle “the Celestials” somewhere else. Hunter’s Point was proposed, then Washerwoman’s Bay, then Telegraph Hill. At that point, the *Examiner* reports, “Several hundred men, women and even children assembled on the hilltop despite the inclemency of the weather and voiced their protests in strong terms....” Led by a local priest, Father Carraher, they formed an organization called the Telegraph Hill Protective Association “to look after the people’s interests.”

Their efforts were successful. Today, San Francisco’s Chinatown is an exotic attraction for tourists and a fun place to dine or shop for the locals. But going beneath the surface yields a profoundly rich story of a proud, resilient and determined people with whom the motley residents of North Beach, very belatedly, learned to be good neighbors.



ALL PHOTOS © TANIA AMOCHAEV



SCAN COURTESY OF SF PUBLIC LIBRARY

Whereas, we are informed that the committee on the location of the Chinese has in view the neighborhood of Telegraph Hill for such a purpose, and

Whereas, we are convinced that the settling of the Chinese on or about Telegraph Hill would be extremely injurious to the material and moral welfare of the district, and

Whereas, the residents and friends of this historic hill have struggled for its preservation in the past and cherish it dearly because it has been an ark of safety in the late conflagration, therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the citizens and property owners of the North End, assembled in mass meeting to-day, use every effort to prevent the settling of the Chinese on or about Telegraph Hill, and be it further

Resolved, That the chairman appoint a committee of five to wait upon the committee on Chinese location to make known to them the sentiments of this meeting — Resolutions adopted at yesterday’s mass meeting on Telegraph Hill.





## WATERFRONT REPORT

by Jon Golinger, Committee Chair  
jon.golinger@thd.org

The new year brings with it the possibility of an entirely new San Francisco Port Commission as four out of the five Commission seats will be up for new appointments by a new Mayor.

As longtime waterfront watchers know, the San Francisco Port Commission is an incredibly powerful agency, one of the most powerful in the city because of the valuable land it oversees. Since 1968, when state legislation known as “The Burton Act” transferred management of our waterfront from the state to the City, the five Port Commissioners have been responsible for decisions both large and small that have shaped the waterfront. Unfortunately, in recent years and especially today, the Port Commission has been mostly filled with political appointees who have been rubber stamps for backroom deals driven by lobbyists, power-brokers, and real estate developers. Exhibit A is the 8 Washington—AKA “Wall on the Waterfront”—fiasco which triggered a massive backlash by San Francisco voters, who rejected it by a resounding 67% to 33% vote at the ballot box in November 2013. That’s why the San Francisco Civil Grand Jury in 2014 released a scathing report calling for an overhaul of the Port Commission to make it less a political tool and more a truly independent steward of our precious public waterfront.

A perfect place to start would be for the alliance of neighborhood groups, environmental organizations, and smart planning advocates who came together under the “No Wall on the Waterfront” banner to call on our new Mayor and our Supervisors to appoint a fresh slate to the Port Commission in 2018. For the first time in recent memory, nearly every seat on the Port Commission will be up for appointment at the same time. Currently, there is one vacant Port Commission

# TIME FOR A NEIGHBORHOOD VOICE ON THE PORT COMMISSION

seat which was left open after former Commissioner Eleni Kounalakis, a real estate developer, resigned to run for the office of Lieutenant Governor. In May 2018, the terms of three other current appointees will expire.

Since there has not been a single neighborhood leader or environmental advocate appointed to the Port Commission in years, I believe it’s long past time for someone to speak for these critical waterfront needs to have a seat at the table when the Port makes critical decisions affecting our waterfront in the coming years. Among the many qualified candidates who immediately come to mind are former THD President Vedica Puri, longtime Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood leader Karen Pierce, stalwart Sierra Club leader Becky Evans, and former City Attorney Louise Renne. If any one of them were appointed to one of the open seats on the Port Commission, they would immediately make a positive difference.

Let’s do what we can to ensure the new Mayor and the Board of Supervisors make this happen in 2018.

### Repeal Of Waterfront Hotel Ban Dropped

As the long-awaited update to the San Francisco Waterfront Land Use Plan moves into its final phase, I am happy to report some good news. The controversial idea that the Port would spend time and resources in the coming years trying to persuade voters to repeal the existing ban on hotels being built inside piers has been dropped from consideration. Credit goes to strong neighborhood advocacy and the leadership of Waterfront Plan Working Group Co-Chairs Rudy Nothenberg and Janice Li for resolving this issue.

As I noted in a previous Waterfront Committee report, a recent poll of city voters found that 71% would oppose a ballot measure to repeal the waterfront hotel ban that voters approved back in 1990. Nevertheless,

there were developers and other powerful forces lobbying hard to get the Waterfront Plan Working Group to include recommendations in its upcoming report that would have opened the door to repealing the hotel ban. In the end, the idea was wisely dropped since it would have been a huge distraction to other vital issues we all agree on that face our waterfront in the months and years ahead, such as sea level rise and threats to the stability of the seawall. I would like to acknowledge and thank Nan Roth, who served on the original Waterfront Land Use Plan Committee 20 years ago, for her advocacy and support on the hotel ban issue that helped us win this one for the waterfront. ✦



ESPRESSO CAPPUCCINO VINO PANINI

**CAFFÈ GRECO**



423 Columbus Ave.  
San Francisco, CA 94133  
Hanna & Sandy Suleiman 415-397-6261

**Al's attire**

**HAND MADE  
SAN FRANCISCO**

**Shoe Restoration**

Select your designs, fabric, lining, buttons,  
details... Ready for fitting in about 3 to 6 weeks

[www.homepage.mac.com/alsattire](http://www.homepage.mac.com/alsattire)  
1300 Grant Avenue • 415.693.9900

[alsattire@earthlink.net](mailto:alsattire@earthlink.net)

**START THE NEW YEAR OFF RIGHT!**

**COLE HARDWARE**



SINCE 1920

**Cole. Hardware for the soul.**

**\$10 OFF**

**WHEN YOU SPEND  
\$25 OR MORE**



**North Beach**  
627 Vallejo (at Columbus Avenue)  
415-200-2215

**Russian Hill**  
2254 Green (at Green Street)  
415-200-3370

Discount off regular retail prices. Offer does not apply to gift cards, postage stamps, Muni passes, Clipper cards, meter cards, special orders, Nest products or sale merchandise. Not valid with other coupons or offers. One redemption per household. Rewards points do not accumulate. Expires 2/28/18



# SEMAPHORE BULLETIN BOARD

## NORTH BEACH CITIZENS’ 17TH ANNUAL “A TASTE OF NORTH BEACH” SPRING DINNER FUNDRAISER

**What:** This popular festivity brings the San Francisco community together to celebrate North Beach Citizens, enjoy a delicious dinner, and bid at an exciting auction. The event raises awareness and funding for North Beach Citizens, a non-profit that provides real and lasting solutions for San Francisco’s homeless population.

**Who:** Hosted by Honorary Chair Francis Ford Coppola, Honorary Co-Hosts Jeannette Etheredge and Lawrence Ferlinghetti, and Neighborhood Host Janine Moss.

**When:** Sunday, April 8, 2018; 6:00 to 9:00 PM

**Where:** Saints Peter and Paul Church

**Tickets:** \$175 per person; Sponsorships available

Reservations: [www.northbeachcitizens.org/events/](http://www.northbeachcitizens.org/events/) or call 415-772-0918.



## NORTH BEACH FIRST FRIDAYS

Stroll around Columbus and Grant avenues on the first Friday evening of each month to see what’s new in the neighborhood. You’ll find an open-house welcome at art galleries, boutiques, and local watering holes, as well as pop-ups and cultural events.

**Canessa Gallery, 708 Montgomery St.** at Columbus [www.canessa.org](http://www.canessa.org)  
february / felicia rice, moving parts press / santa cruz  
march / richard zimmerman / a photographic portfolio of grant avenue buildings  
april / parched, drenched, and scorched in the north bay / photographs by karen preuss, text by jonah raskin

**Gallery 1317, 1317 Grant Ave.**  
**Grey City Gallery, 250 Columbus Ave.** at Broadway/Pacific/Saroyan Alley [greycitygallery.com](http://greycitygallery.com)  
February 2 & 3: Guest Artists Isabel Koopman, Mixed Media and Digital Prints; Miriam Owen, Printmaking; and Resident Artist Elizabeth Ashcroft  
March 2 & 3 and April 6 & 7: Guests Artists TBA

**Live Worms Gallery, 1345 Grant Ave.** [www.sflivewormsgallery.com](http://www.sflivewormsgallery.com)  
**Macchiarini Creative Design, 1544 Grant Ave.** [www.maccreativedesign.com](http://www.maccreativedesign.com)  
**Modern Eden Gallery, 801 Greenwich St.** [www.moderneden.com](http://www.moderneden.com)  
**Mule Gallery, 80 Fresno St.** [mulegallery.com](http://mulegallery.com)  
**North Beach Bauhaus, 703 Columbus Ave.** [www.nbbauhaus.com](http://www.nbbauhaus.com)  
**Telegraph Hill Gallery, 491 Greenwich St.** [telegraphhillgallery.com](http://telegraphhillgallery.com)

Remind yourself how much fun it is to live in such a vibrant corner of the world by rediscovering the thriving local art scene while you support the creative community behind it.

**Events vary from month to month**, so check the North Beach First Fridays website (<http://northbeachfirstfridays.com/>), Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/northbeachfirstfridays/>), and Twitter feed (<https://twitter.com/NB1stFridays>) for the latest openings, closings, and events.



**Vesuvio, 255 Columbus at Jack Kerouac Alley, February 1-28**

“Redness, Readness”

Elizabeth Ashcroft - Altered Books and Collage, with a nod towards the color red and the portions of the heart

Reception TBA

[arthyashcroft.com](http://arthyashcroft.com)



## NOONTIME CONCERTS

“San Francisco’s Musical Lunch Break”

FREE classical performances by outstanding local and international artists

Every Tuesday, 12:30-1:15 PM (approximately)

Old St. Mary’s Cathedral, corner of California and Grant

Admission is free; please make a \$5 donation if you can.

<http://noontimeconcerts.org/>

## FREE JOB SEARCH MEETINGS that can jumpstart your job search or get you out of the career doldrums

**The Job Forum**  
235 Montgomery St., Mezzanine conference room  
Every Wednesday evening, 6:30-8:30  
Sponsored by the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, The Job Forum provides job search networking and career support to professional job seekers in the San Francisco Bay Area.

[thejobforum.org](http://thejobforum.org)

Free for job seekers -- See story on p. 7



## POETRY AT THE NORTH BEACH LIBRARY

**Held every Tuesday evening in the historic** literary epicenter of San Francisco, **Tuesdays at North Beach** is a free poetry series celebrating internationally acclaimed poets and showcasing local talent. Guests have included Jonathan Richman, David Meltzer, Diane di Prima, California Poet Laureate Al Young and freshly-discovered poets from Friends’ sister program, Poets 11. The series is curated by Friends’ Poet-in-Residence, Jack Hirschman.

Presented by Friends of the San Francisco Public Library.

For more information, call Byron Spooner at 415-626-7500.



## NORTH BEACH CITIZENS WELCOMES VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS!

We are a community based non-profit organization that utilizes the strength of the neighborhood to effectively address the needs of homeless and low-income citizens through an innovative collaboration of residents, merchants, police, and service providers.

If you haven’t stopped by lately, come visit our new headquarters at 1034 Kearny.

For hours, directions, and all other information:  
<http://www.northbeachcitizens.org/>  
(415) 772-0918



## COFFEE AND ENCOURAGEMENT

Join us every Friday at Caffè Roma (526 Columbus Ave) from 2:00-3:00 for coffee and free encouragement. This is a time where individuals from our neighborhood come together and share encouraging things and also request encouragement. In a world of negativity, why not speak out the positive? If you have any questions about this group feel free to contact [Northbeachconnect@gmail.com](mailto:Northbeachconnect@gmail.com)



## LOOKING OUT FOR OUR CHILDREN

The San Francisco Department of Child Support Services strives to ensure that all children receive the financial and medical support they need from their parents to be healthy and successful. Our resources include legal assistance; location of parents; establishment of paternity and support obligations; and enforcement of support orders.

Walk-in services are available at our main office, 617 Mission Street, 8 AM-5 PM Monday-Friday.

Call (866) 901-3212 for more locations and information, or call (415) 356-2950 for a consultation.



## THAT MAGICAL PLACE CALLED “AWAY”

In its quest to eliminate waste in San Francisco, Recology has expanded its guidelines for recycling (blue bin), compost (green bin), and trash (black bin). Find out where to put everything at <https://sfrecycles.org/>



**Joan E. Glick** ACSM, ACE, NASM  
Certified Personal Trainer & Fitness Coach

2054 Powell Street  
San Francisco, CA 94133  
415.860.1496  
[info@fitfortheages.com](mailto:info@fitfortheages.com)  
[fitfortheages.com](http://fitfortheages.com)    Yoga Classes Too

Macchiarini Design  
Presents:  
**MetalworksSF**  
School of Handcrafted  
Jewelry & Metal Art  
Join us! The Spring Quarter  
Begins Wednesday April 6  
1544 Grant Ave. San Francisco, CA  
or sign up online at:  
[www.metalworkssf@gmail.com](mailto:www.metalworkssf@gmail.com)





EAT   DRINK   SHOP   LIVE

**l o c a l**





## PLANNING & ZONING REPORT

by Stan Hayes, Committee Co-Chair  
stan.hayes@thd.org

**W**ell, here we are, 2018. The start of a new year, and time to reflect back on the last one. Once again, THD has been busy on quite a few Planning & Zoning fronts this past year, with some notable successes. Here's a thumbnail summary of some of THD's 2017 P&Z highlights:

### Urban Design Guidelines

**THD successfully supported development of neighborhood-specific commercial design guidelines**, in contrast to the Planning Department's proposed one-size-fits-all citywide approach. THD advocated for a more individualized approach, in which neighborhood-specific design guidelines could be tailored to the unique facts-on-the-ground character of those neighborhoods, thus better recognizing, preserving, and enhancing the unique qualities of those neighborhoods. We are currently working with Planning staff and others to develop a draft of such guidelines for North Beach and Broadway.

### Poets Plaza

**THD successfully opposed closure of Vallejo Street from Grant to Columbus to build a pedestrian piazza.** THD opposed the project because closure of Vallejo would take away the primary exit of the more than 300 families that depend on Vallejo to leave their neighborhood. THD argued that such closure was not necessary, and presented design alternatives for a piazza that would keep Vallejo open as a functioning street. After an overflow, marathon SFMTA board hearing, at which nearly fifty Hill residents spoke against the proposal,

including THD members and Board, the SF Examiner reported: "After 15 Years, Angela Alioto's Poets Plaza is dead in the water."

### Moxy Hotel

**THD successfully opposed a proposal to build a 75-room, four-story hotel at Columbus, Jones, and Bay Streets** on a site currently occupied by a bicycle rental business (the old Tower Records classical music annex). The proposed hotel was billed by Marriott as "A free-spirited place where you can do all that crazy fun stuff you'd never think of doing at home." Joining neighbors and other organizations in opposition to the hotel, THD argued that the site, like the adjacent residential area, should be housing, not a hotel. The Planning Commission agreed and denied the proposal.

### NEMS

**THD successfully opposed conversion** of commercial tenant space in the old Citibank building at Green and Stockton into a medical clinic, including radiology equipment services in the basement and ground floor. THD argued that insufficient independent retail space was proposed to be workable and effective in reactivating the street. The Planning Commission agreed and concluded that the entire ground floor should be independent retail, and then denied the proposal.

### Article 7

**THD successfully worked to ensure that North Beach safeguards were preserved** in the Planning Department's major reorganization of Article 7 of the Planning Code, which regulates neighborhood commercial districts throughout the City. THD conducted an extensive review of Article 7 provisions that apply

to North Beach, and worked with Planning staff to ensure that these protections were included in the reorganized Article 7. THD supported Article 7 trailing legislation to provide additional protections to North Beach, which was introduced by Supervisor Peskin and approved unanimously by the Board of Supervisors.

### 88 Broadway

**THD continued to support modifications to the design of a large affordable housing project.** THD continued to state its long-standing support of affordable housing for all those in need, including who-ever lives in the new 88 Broadway. THD continues to seek modifications to the project's design, though, that would help the buildings better fit in with the Northeast Waterfront Historic District in which the site is located. THD argued for the building sizes to be smaller and more in scale with nearby buildings, window placement to better match prevailing patterns in the historic district, and exterior materials that provide a less artificial appearance that blends in better with historic buildings.

### 115 Telegraph Hill Boulevard


**THD continued to oppose a large-sized multi-unit condominium project adjacent to Coit Tower and Pioneer Park.** THD has joined with others to pursue legal appeals to project approvals, to challenge the project developer's proposed management of the more than two years of construction, and to appeal project permits as they are issued. Thus far, however, lower courts have ruled against us and in favor of the project developer. We intend to continue our efforts, however, having now joined in an appeal to the California Supreme Court. ✕

Join North Beach Citizens for  
The 17th Annual  
*A Taste of North Beach Spring Dinner*  
April 8, 2018 | 6 pm  
Saints Peter and Paul Church  
Sponsorship Opportunities  
Tickets: \$175


The annual dinner that brings the  
San Francisco community together to celebrate  
the success of North Beach Citizens

**Mobilizing the San Francisco  
community to address the  
challenges of homelessness  
and poverty.**

1034 Kearny Street, San Francisco, CA 94133  
415.772.0918 | [www.northbeachcitizens.org](http://www.northbeachcitizens.org)

 **Community. Find it here.**

North Beach Citizens is a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization.  
Tax ID # 94-3360013



**To all our friends on Telegraph Hill:**  
Hanna and Rana Chedyak from  
**Fog Hill Market** invite you to visit us at our  
new business, **Nook Cafe**, at 1500 Hyde  
Street at the corner of Hyde and Jackson

Hanna Chedyak Cell.# 650-307-2270	&	Rana Chedyak Cell.# 650-307-2122
--------------------------------------	---	-------------------------------------



1500 Hyde Street  
San Francisco, CA 94109  
Phone: 415-447-4100

Cafenook.com



**DENNIS HEARNE**  
photographer  
[www.dennishearne.com](http://www.dennishearne.com)  
tel 415 989 5152  
email [dennishearne@mac.com](mailto:dennishearne@mac.com)  
779 Vallejo Street  
San Francisco, California 94133  
PORTRAITURE, ARCHITECTURE, AND DOCUMENTATIONS

**COLUMBINE**  
*design*

kathleen dooley 415.577.5057	san francisco, ca <a href="mailto:kathleendooley58@gmail.com">kathleendooley58@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.columbinedesignsf.com">www.columbinedesignsf.com</a>
---------------------------------	---

FLORAL DESIGN • WEDDINGS • EVENTS • COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL





## ART & CULTURE REPORT

Jessica Snow, Committee Chair  
jessica.snow@thd.org

'It is better to live in a state of impermanence than in one of finality.'

—Gaston Bachelard, *The Poetics of Space*

**H**ow do we inhabit our most intimate spaces? Where we live and wake up, eat, wash, ponder, worry, dress, read, play, make love, cook, talk, fret, laugh, sleep. Do we stop noticing the details around us, or are they more deeply ingrained than any dream of travel?

The artists I've chosen for A Pause, to Contemplate the Light: Recording Space, the next show I'm curating on behalf of THD, draw forth in their respective series a tension between the seen and the unseen, between what is noticed and that which is not. The subject matter isn't definable in a traditional sense—it is the elusiveness of the narrative that holds the viewer's attention. Domestic space is inhabited but devoid (mostly) of people. Their presence is suggested rather

## CONTEMPLATE THE LIGHT

than depicted. The photos I've chosen for the show document lives lived as if seen from the periphery or the corner of the eye. A wrinkled imprint on the couch, a forgotten toy in the yard, light dabbling the curtain. Such images can awaken memories banked in the deepest storehouse of the mind.

Whether the photos contain the narrative or merely suggest it, the experience of looking brings about daydreams—forming, dissipating, forming again. These photographs are suggestive of a state in-between—lived spaces in which a feeling seems to be left over from a previous state: we can only guess what happened before, and what will transpire there in the future. An ever-present questioning is contained within. These are lived spaces, sometimes urban, but not necessarily. The photos cohere in that they suggest longings for completion, for a summing up of how we might live more fully in the world.

I hope you'll join me and the artists—Elizabeth Bernstein, Jordan Jurich-Weston, Laura Plageman, and Josh Smith—for the opening reception on February 2, 2018, 7-9 pm, at 3 Standard Stoppage, 444 Union Street at Varennes.



## TREASURER'S REPORT

by Joe Luttrell  
treasurer@thd.org

**T**HD operates on a fiscal year (rather than a calendar year), from April 1 to March 31. All THD board members and officers are volunteers. They may receive reimbursement for expenses incurred on behalf of THD, but not otherwise.

A proposed budget was submitted to the Board at its May 2017 meeting, discussed then, and unanimously adopted. It proposes essentially a break-even year. The basic goals in the budget are that advertising, dues and other revenues will remain constant, as will expenses for the Semaphore, and that revenue and expense for social and arts and culture events will offset one another. These goals have so far been met during the first nine months of this fiscal year (April through December) and even bettered, with a net income of \$7,368.69, principally due to a number of generous contributions.



Just after the horrific October fires broke out in Sonoma County, Caffè Puccini was destroyed overnight by a kitchen fire. We hope this longtime North Beach landmark will rise soon, better than ever, from the ashes.

PHOTO © CAROL VERBURG

## THE FINE ART OF PICTURE FRAMING

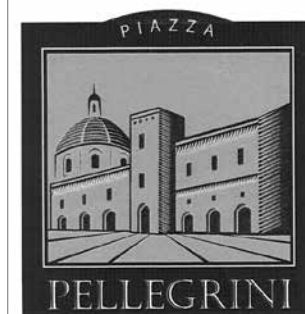


WWW.CADRE-SF.COM

(415)296-0400

301 UNION ST. AT MONTGOMERY

MENTION **"THE SEMAPHORE"**  
AND GET **10% OFF** ON  
ALL CUSTOM FRAMING!



RISTORANTE ITALIANO

659 Columbus Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94133  
Tel: 1 415.397.7355  
Fax: 1 415.397.7357

www.piazzapellegrini.com

Breakfast  
& Lunch  
7:30 to 2:30—  
this is 7 days a  
week.

**PAT'S  
CAFÉ**

Support  
Small  
Business

2330 Taylor Street  
San Francisco, CA 94133  
415-776-8735

**AWESOME BREAKFASTS & LUNCHES**

HAND MADE PASTA FRESCA  
HOT PIADINA SANDWICHES  
PASTA READY TO GO

SLICED MEATS / SHOP  
IMPORTED CHEESES  
GOURMET GROCERY STORE



SPECIALTY 2014 GROCERY

716 COLUMBUS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94134  
415-712-8874

Phone: 415-398-3181

www.sottomaresf.com  
sotto.mare@outlook.com



"The Best Damn Cioppino!"

Seafood • Pasta • Fish Market • Banquet Room for up to 30 Guests

In San Francisco's "Little Italy"  
552 Green Street (between Columbus & Grant)  
North Beach, San Francisco, CA 94133





**SOCIAL & PROGRAM REPORT**

by Natalie Parker, Committee Chair  
natalie.parker@thd.org

The Annual Holiday Party was a wonderful event with ninety members attending, coming to enjoy friends, food and wine. This year's party was held on Sunday afternoon, December 10, at Deck the Halls, the pop-up holiday-themed restaurant soon to be Lillie Coit's (the former Washington Square Bar & Grill.)

Special thanks to the new proprietors of Lillie Coit's, Nick Floulis, JP Jacques, and Elmer Mejicanos, for welcoming THD into their space at 1707 Powell Street, which they plan to remodel in February, and for offering us complimentary wine. We look forward to their grand opening this Spring. Also kudos to Adam Soldan, the chef caterer, who will soon be the chef at the new Boardroom in the old Capp's Corner, for the delicious buffet. And last but not least, thanks to Ken Luciano and Shaher Massif, partners in the Deck the

Halls pop-up.  
This year's Hero of the Hill awards went to our esteemed postmen, Edwin Linares (presented by Romalyn Schmaltz) and Edward Chin (presented by Katherine Petrin). District 3 Supervisor Aaron Peskin also gave each "Ed" a Certificate of Honor from the City of San Francisco. See photos on p. 1.  
We look forward to the Spring Social, so stay posted!





# THIRD QUARTER BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

by Mary Lipian, Recording Secretary  
mary.lipian@thd.org

## October 2017

THD was able to celebrate three big wins in the month of October, 2017:

### Poets Plaza

Defeating the proposed closing of a block of Vallejo Street for a pedestrian piazza, AKA Poets Plaza, was the biggest win for the neighborhood, which happened as a result of “people power.” Neighborhood residents, including THD board and members, attended the SFMTA board of directors meeting to speak in opposition to the project. As a result, the SFMTA board directed its staff to put the Poets Plaza project on hold.

### Moxy Hotel

The Planning Commission voted to deny the conditional use permit for the Moxy Hotel, a proposed boutique-style hotel at 1196 Columbus Avenue. Neighbors opposed to the project presented the project sponsor’s website to the Commission, which advertised its other Moxy Hotels, saying that its “bar was always open” and “our lobbies are like living rooms with a bartender.” The

Planning Commission and neighbors expressed hope that the site will be used for residential housing instead of a hotel.

### North East Medical Services (NEMS)

NEMS wanted to put radiology equipment and services in the old Citibank building at Columbus and Green streets. The Planning Commission determined that the entire ground floor should be independent retail, not mixed in with a health services use. A motion to deny the NEMS application for a conditional use was adopted by the Planning Commission.

## November 2017

### Jeremy Fish Billboard Project

THD’s Board approved a joint project with the Chinatown Community Development Center (CCDC) and North Beach Business Association (NBBA) to fund the installation of artwork designed by Jeremy Fish on the billboard located on Vallejo Street near Columbus Avenue. Jeremy Fish is a well-known San Francisco artist who recently completed an artist’s residency in Coit Tower. The drawing, which will be placed on the billboard for four months, is to promote neighborhood

unity. Voluntary contributions from THD’s board members will help to defray THD’s share of the cost.

### San Francisco Beautiful Presentation

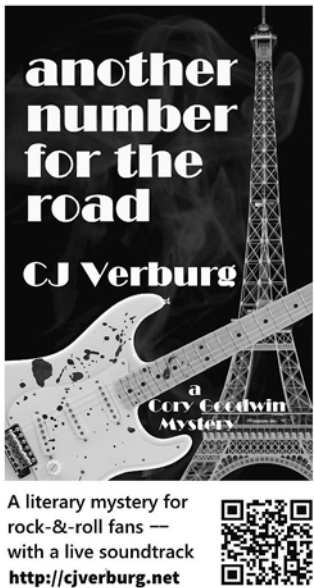
Jim Billings, the Development Director of San Francisco Beautiful (SFB), shared with THD’s Board the Muni Art initiative, a program designed to minimize graffiti. Muni Art will be placed on more than 100 buses through collaborations with local artists. The next theme for the Muni Art initiative will be poetry.

### Oral History Tapes to be Digitized

To help preserve the oral histories of the many individuals who have generously shared the details of their lives in North Beach and Telegraph Hill, the Bancroft Library has agreed to digitize a number of oral history tapes held in its collection. The cost of digitizing the tapes will be shared by THD, which will be able to transcribe the oral histories and make them publicly available on THD’s website and through the History Room of the SF Public Library.

## December 2017

No THD Board meeting was held during the month of December due to the winter recess. ✂



## FRIENDS OF WASHINGTON SQUARE

Meet on the 2nd Tuesday every month, with work parties in the Square every quarter.

See website for times, dates, locations.

[www.friendsofwashingtonsquare.com](http://www.friendsofwashingtonsquare.com)

## THD COMMITTEES NEED YOU

Get involved in our neighborhood and make a difference! Join a THD committee and help keep the Hill a special place to live.

### STANDING COMMITTEES

Art & Culture: Jessica Snow (Chair) Contact Jessica at [jessica.snow@thd.org](mailto:jessica.snow@thd.org)

Budget: Joe Luttrell (Chair) Contact Joe at [joe.luttrell@thd.org](mailto:joe.luttrell@thd.org)

Membership: Al Fontes (Chair) Contact Al at [THDmembership@gmail.com](mailto:THDmembership@gmail.com)

Oral History Project: TBD

Parking/Transportation/Subway: Michael Pedroni and Howard Wong

Contact Michael at [michael.pedroni@thd.org](mailto:michael.pedroni@thd.org) or Howard at [howard.wong@thd.org](mailto:howard.wong@thd.org)

Parks & Trees: Don Raichle (Chair) Contact Don at [don.raichle@thd.org](mailto:don.raichle@thd.org)

Planning & Zoning: Mary Lipian and Stan Hayes (Co-Chairs) ) Contact Mary at [mary.lipian@thd.org](mailto:mary.lipian@thd.org) or Stan at [stan.hayes@thd.org](mailto:stan.hayes@thd.org)

Semaphore: Carol Verburg, Contact: [semaphore@thd.org](mailto:semaphore@thd.org)

Social & Program: Natalie Parker (Chair) Contact Natalie at [natalie.parker@thd.org](mailto:natalie.parker@thd.org)

Waterfront: Jon Golinger (Chair)

Communications: Robert Woehrle, Katie Hopkins, and Al Fontes

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE MEETS last Thursdays.  
Call for time and location. 986-7070, 563-3494, or 391-5652.

### LIAISONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Central Police District Community Advisory Board: Daryl Babbitt

Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods: Paul Webber

Friends of Washington Square Liaison: Marilee Gaffney

Neighborhood Network Liaison: Gerry Crowley

Northeast Waterfront Advisory Group Member: Jon Golinger



## TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS

Voice Mail: (415) 843-1011. Web Site: [www.thd.org](http://www.thd.org)  
P.O. Box 330159 • San Francisco, CA 94133

### THD BOARD OFFICERS 2017-2018

President: Judy Irving — [judy.irving@thd.org](mailto:judy.irving@thd.org)

Vice-President: Romalyn Schmaltz — [romalyn.schmaltz@thd.org](mailto:romalyn.schmaltz@thd.org)

Recording Secretary: Mary Lipian — [mary.lipian@thd.org](mailto:mary.lipian@thd.org)

Corresponding Secretary: Mary Ann Scanlan-Stone — [maryann.scanlan@thd.org](mailto:maryann.scanlan@thd.org)

Treasurer: Joe Luttrell — [joe.luttrell@thd.org](mailto:joe.luttrell@thd.org)

Financial Secretary: Al Fontes — [al.fontes@thd.org](mailto:al.fontes@thd.org)

Historian: Nancy Shanahan — [nancy.shanahan@thd.org](mailto:nancy.shanahan@thd.org)

Immediate Past President: Stan Hayes — [stan.hayes@thd.org](mailto:stan.hayes@thd.org)

Editor of the Semaphore: Carol Verburg — [semaphore@thd.org](mailto:semaphore@thd.org)

### DIRECTORS

#### Term: 2017-2018

Paul Webber

Robert Woehrle

Natalie Parker

Don Raichle

#### Term: 2017-2019

Jessica Snow

Andy Katz

Katie Hopkins

Kathleen Dooley



## WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS!

**There’s no better way to be connected to your neighborhood and be a voice of the hill than by joining Telegraph Hill Dwellers, today.**

Join at *THD.org*. If you’d prefer to have a brochure and sign-up form mailed to you, please send an email to [membership@thd.org](mailto:membership@thd.org). Already a member? Give one as a gift!

#### Membership includes:

- A one-year subscription to news & events via email and a quarterly paper, *The Semaphore*.
- Opportunities to be active in your community. Your passion likely aligns to one of many committees.
- Social and Art & Culture events throughout the year – attend and contribute!

#### Annual Dues:

Individuals.....	\$35
Households.....	\$50
Seniors (65 and older).....	\$25
Senior Households.....	\$40

Join now or give the gift of membership at *THD.org* or email [membership@thd.org](mailto:membership@thd.org).



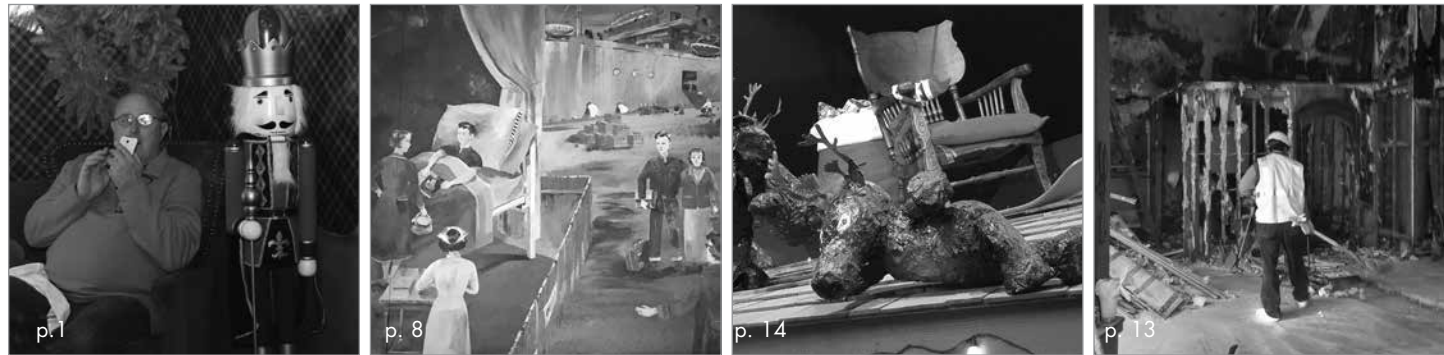


TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS  
P. O. Box 330159  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94133



# The Semaphore

A Publication of the TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS  
Issue 220  
Winter 2018



## THE SEMAPHORE #220 Winter 2018

### FEATURES and COLUMNS

Heroes of the Hill . . . . .	1	Waterfront Report: Time For A Neighborhood Voice	
President's Corner: Behind the Scenes by Judy Irving . . . . .	2	On The Port Commission by Jon Golinger . . . . .	10
Parks & Trees Report by Don Raichle . . . . .	3	Semaphore Bulletin Board . . . . .	11
D3 Supervisor Report:		Planning & Zoning Report by Stan Hayes . . . . .	12
From the Hill to the Dome by Aaron Peskin . . . . .	4	Art & Culture Report: Contemplate the Light	
Umbrellas and Art by Romalyn Schmaltz . . . . .	6	by Jessica Snow . . . . .	13
The Job Forum: A Helping Hand in the		Treasurer's Report by Joe Luttrell . . . . .	13
21st-Century Job Market by CJ Verburg . . . . .	7	Social & Program Report: THD Holiday Celebration	
Madame Ho at Cameron House by Tania Amochaev,		by Natalie Parker . . . . .	14
Jon Golinger, Richard Slota, & CJ Verburg . . . . .	8	COVER IMAGE: © Jeremy Fish.	

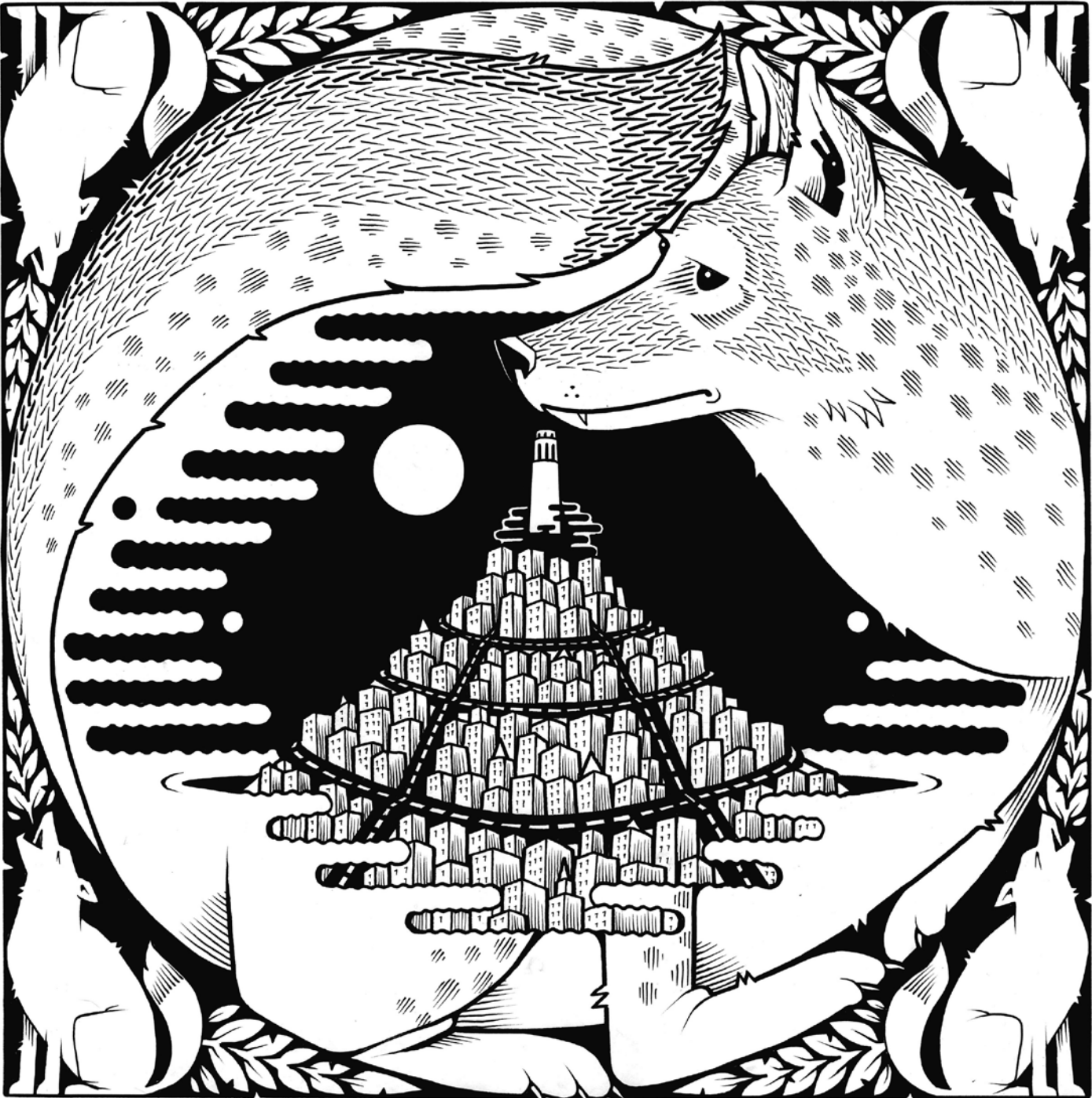
### THD BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report by Joe Luttrell . . . . .	13	Board of Directors and Committees . . . . .	15
Third Quarter Board Meeting Highlights by Mary Lipian . . . . .	15	Become a Member. . . . .	15

### SEMAPHORE STAFF

EDITOR: CAROL VERBURG — semaphore@thd.org  
TYPESETTING/DESIGN: CHRIS CARLSSON — carlsson.chris@gmail.com  
AD SALES: ANDY KATZ — andy.katz@thd.org  
BUSINESS MANAGER: AL FONTES — al.fontes@thd.org

The Semaphore is a publication of the Telegraph Hill Dwellers for its members. Articles, except for the summary of Board of Directors' Motions, do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Association or its officers, but are the opinions of the writers of the individually copyrighted articles. The Association can take no responsibility for their content. No part of this membership publication may be reprinted or disseminated without permission in writing. © 2018.



OUR VALENTINE TO THE HILL and  
HAPPY YEAR OF THE DOG